5

MECHANICAL DATA PROCESSING

ABSTRACT

10

Described is a method for erasing data recorded in a data storage device in which a data bit is written onto a surface by applying a first combination of energy and force to the surface via a tip to form a pit in the surface representative of the data bit by local deformation of the surface. The method comprises applying a second combination of

15 energy and force via the tip to prerecorded deformations of the surface to be erased to substantially level the surface.

20

12

CH920000046US1